

REMARKS

By the present response, claims 1, 11, 13, and 15 have been amended. Claims 16-17 have been added. Therefore claims 1-17 are pending.

Further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain after consideration of this response, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned so that any such issues may be resolved by Supplemental Amendment or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 

Scott W. Cummings
Registration No. 41,567

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: November 17, 1998